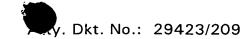


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1	1. A tire tread cutting apparatus for cutting a length of tire tread to
2	be affixed to a tire casing having a cushion gum, comprising:
3	a measuring device configured to measure at least one of the
4	circumference of the tire casing and the circumference of the tire casing plus the
5	cushion gum;
6	a tread dispenser configured to automatically dispense a length
7	of tire tread based on the circumference of at least one of the tire casing and the
8	tire casing plus the cushion gum.
1	2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tread length is dispensed
2	by pushing the tread length.
1	3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tread dispenser
2	comprises:
3	a tread cutter, configured to cut the tread to a determined
4	length.
1	4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tread dispenser
2	comprises:
3	a curved track for guiding the length of tire tread.
1 -	5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tread dispenser
2	comprises:
3	a first clamp for clamping the length of tire tread adjacent a first
4	end; and
5	a second clamp for clamping the length of tire tread adjacent a
6	second end.



1	6. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising:
2	a retractable stop configured to provide a known location of the
3	first end relative to the first clamp.
	7 The second of claim 5 for the generalization
1	7. The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising:
2	a tread cutter, configured to cut the tread to a determined
3	length and located a known distance from the second clamp.
1	8. A tire tread cutting apparatus for cutting a length of tire tread to
2	be affixed to a tire casing having a cushion gum, comprising:
3	a measuring device configured to measure at least one of the
4	circumference of the tire casing and the circumference of the tire casing plus the
5	cushion gum;
6	a tread dispenser configured to automatically dispense a length
7	of tire tread based on the circumference of at least one of the tire casing and the
8	tire casing plus the cushion gum, the length of tire tread having a first end and a
9	second end and a periodically repeating pattern; and
10	a tread cutter configured to cut the tread to a determined
11	length.
	O The annual set aloing 8 wherein the determined length is
1	9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the determined length is
2	specified by an operator.
1	10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the determined length is
2	based on matching the pattern at the first end with the pattern at the second end
3	of the tire tread.
1	11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the determined length may
2	be automatically specified.
	12 The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the tread cutter is
4	ty the apparatie of claim 11. Wherein the Itean cities is

configured to automatically cut the tread to the determined length.



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The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the tread length is dispensed 13. 1 by simultaneously pushing and pulling the tread. 2 A method of cutting a length of tire tread for a retread tire having a tire casing and a cushion gum applied to the tire casing, comprising: 2 measuring a circumference of the tire casing with the cushion 3 gum applied; 4 communicating, electronically, the circumference of the tire 5 casing with the cushion gum applied to the tire tread dispenser; and 6 dispensing, automatically, a length of tire tread based on the 7 circumference of the tire casing with the cushion gum applied. 8 5. The method of claim 14, further comprising: dispensing tire tread until a first end of the tire tread abuts a stop The method of claim 15, further comprising: 16. clamping the tire tread adjacent the first end. The method of claim 16, further comprising: 17. retracting the stop. The method of claim 17, further comprising: 18. clamping the tire tread adjacent a second end. 19. The method of claim 14, further comprising: cutting the tire tread to an automatically determined length. 2 The method of claim 14, further comprising: 20. 1

cutting the tire tread to an operator determined length.

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21. The method of claim 14, further comprising:

culting the tire tread to a length based on the tire

3 tread design.

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